

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
10/19/08 – 11/1/08**

DISTRICT 1

CO Jason Wicklund and Sgt. Marc Pomroy worked a grouse decoy in several areas of frequent complaints. The first area produced a hunter who shot the decoy from inside the vehicle. In the second area, a hunter who had been ticketed by CO David Painter for shooting the decoy a few weeks ago decided that this time he would just run it over with his truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Painter responded to a pond near Crystal Falls to assist divers who had found a firearm on the bottom of the pond. The gun turned out to have been stolen four days earlier and was turned over to the Iron County Sheriff's Department.

CO Dave Painter assisted Fish Divisions from Michigan and Wisconsin with their sturgeon research project. Nearly 100 fish were handled and research data collected.

CO Ryan Aho assisted local sheriff's department deputies in the search for a missing child. The child was located a short distance from the residence safe and sound hiding in a wood shed.

CO Jason Niemi was contacted by a trapper who had a live wolf in a leg hold trap. He responded with wildlife personnel and the wolf was radio collared and released.

CO Mark Leadman responded to a request for assistance from the Michigan State Police (MSP). They were in the process of serving an arrest warrant and discovered an untagged deer hanging in the backyard of the subject's house. The deer and a compound bow were seized as evidence. A warrant is being sought from the prosecutor's office.

CO Jason Niemi investigated a complaint of a subject trapping on private property without permission. The trapper was ticketed for possession of an untagged bobcat.

CO Mark Leadman responded to a complaint of a person hunting from a motor vehicle. The next day he contacted a subject bird hunting on an ORV. The subject was transporting a loaded uncased shotgun, was without a helmet and had two passengers on the ORV.

CO Brett Gustafson observed fresh ORV tracks going behind a locked gate. The landowner had previously complained to him of trespass issues and had issued CO Gustafson a key to the gate. A short time later the subject was located driving on the property with a loaded/uncased shotgun and was not wearing hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon assisted local authorities with an escapee from the jail; the subject was originally lodged for armed robbery and drug trafficking charges. The subject barricaded himself in at a friend's house where he surrendered a short time later.

CO Matt Eberly was asked to assist the local authorities with a domestic violence subject who had beaten family members and threatened others with a knife before leaving his residence. While searching for the subject, there was a call about a person who had been shot in the same area. CO Eberly responded and found an unrelated subject who had gone for a walk with his family and accidentally shot himself in the stomach with a .22 rifle. First aid was administered and assistance given until Emergency Medical Services (EMS) arrived on the scene. The original subject who was involved in the domestic violence incident was later tracked into the woods by CO Eberly and other law enforcement officers where he was found to have committed suicide.

CO Dennis Gast located a subject on a forest road who was operating an ORV without a helmet, without a registration, without any required hunter orange and who also had a loaded and uncased shotgun on his person. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Painter located a nonresident who was grouse hunting in a remote area who had walked from a family member's cabin. The subject was ticketed when it was discovered that he had neglected to purchase a small game license.

DISTRICT 2

CO Gerald Thayer caught one subject digging up trees on state land and then transplanting them onto his own property. A ticket was issued for violation of state land use rules.

CO Kyle Publiski contacted one subject who tried to warn his partner that a CO was in the area. Upon contact with the partner, CO Publiski found that excessive bait had been placed at his hunting site. Further investigation revealed that several trees were also cut on public land. Tickets were issued.

CO Kyle Publiski and Sgt. Wally Binder apprehended three subjects who shot a turkey from a car. The subjects shot the turkey within the safety zone of a residence. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski was called out at 1:00 a.m. to assist local sheriff's deputies who had stopped a vehicle suspected of shooting a deer at night. The subjects had shot a deer and then removed the backstraps and hindquarters. Through further interviews, CO Publiski obtained a confession of not just that deer, but of another deer that was illegally killed the previous week.

CO Bob Madden assisted the MSP, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and local sheriff's department deputies in locating two lost bird hunters in northern Schoolcraft County.

CO Mike Hammill received information that a subject had shot an 8 point buck with a bow. CO Hammill followed up with a license check and found that the subject had not purchased a deer license on the day that the deer was killed. CO Hammill contacted the subject, who confessed that he shot the deer without a license.

CO Mike Hammill was on foot patrol checking for illegal baits in Luce County when he came upon a subject hunting with a crossbow without a permit. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 3

A directed shining patrol for nighttime deer poaching encompassing the Pigeon River Country (PRC) and surrounding area was conducted. The group patrol produced a crew headlighting a bull elk with two rifles in possession. Also, two vehicles were stopped for shining in November, one was ticketed. Several of the subjects had been arrested in the past for poaching violations.

COs Eric Bottorff and Nick Torsky gave a law enforcement presentation at the PRC Advisory Committee meeting.

CO Richard Stowe assisted local sheriff's department deputies with a larceny of traps complaint by recovering the traps from a subject, who had picked them up assuming they were illegal.

CO Michael Feagan handled an unlawful burning complaint in which the fire department had extinguished a large pile of burning paint cans, plastics, a TV, and building materials. The subject was ticketed for unlawful disposal of solid waste – open burning.

CO Michael Feagan followed up on a deer blind on state land that he had warned the subject to remove last deer season. Upon checking, CO Feagan found the blind dismantled but left on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Feagan and Sgt. Greg Drogowski testified at a deer baiting trial in Cheboygan County. The defendant was found guilty.

Several trapping complaints were handled, with an increase in recreational trespass and complaints of dogs caught in traps.

COs Steve Speigl and Sgt. Jim Gorno contacted several hunters on state land who were hunting over bait, had illegal tree stands, and who were operating ORVs illegally. While writing tickets, the COs conducted a LEIN check and discovered that one subject was wanted on an outstanding felony warrant for burglary. He was lodged in the Antrim County jail awaiting statewide pick-up.

CO Andrea Albert checked an Alpena County deer camp that had previously been suspected of baiting deer. CO Albert walked in and discovered bait and issued two tickets to the landowner and a hunter.

CO Carl Vanderwall ticketed two Emmet County hunters for illegal tree stands and deer baiting.

CO Nick Torsky, while working underneath the plane east of Vanderbilt, observed a vehicle using its headlights to shine fields on state land. CO Torsky contacted the occupants of the vehicle and found them to be in possession of bows and a shotgun. CO Torsky took enforcement action, ticketing the operator of the vehicle.

CO Nick Torsky, while patrolling near Guthrie Lake, observed a lone angler trolling using four lines and took enforcement action.

CO Kelly Ross worked baiting complaints and ticketed two hunters for hunting over bait.

COs Joe Molnar and Bill Webster were kayaking the Thunder Bay River the day before the opener of water trapping and located traps within 50 feet of the river. CO Webster located the trapper's ID tags and interviewed him about the illegal sets. CO Webster is seeking a warrant through the prosecutor's office for the habitual offender sanctions.

CO Joe Molnar was unable to catch up with a vehicle shining behind locked gates observed by DNR Pilot Bill Green. CO Molnar checked the property at a later date and stopped a vehicle driving on the property. The two occupants had two shotguns loaded in the vehicle beside them. Further investigation by CO Molnar led to baiting and feeding deer on the property, hunting without licenses, and a possible deer tagging violation with follow up to be done by a downstate conservation officer. CO Molnar also issued tickets for baiting and hunting without licenses.

CO Bill Webster received a call from Alpena Central Dispatch in reference to shots fired at 4:00 a.m. CO Webster responded and located a vehicle using its headlights to shine nearby. CO Webster stopped the vehicle and found three occupants in the pickup and a 30.06 rifle in the backseat. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 4

A property owner was out in his yard late one night when he noticed a vehicle shining a field near his house. The man could see a buck standing in the light. The sound of an arrow being released could be heard just prior to the buck running off. The shining vehicle then sped away. The man and his son decided to go into the field and see if they could find any evidence of the deer being shot. After finding blood, the men tracked the trail to a dead eight point buck. The two men hid the deer in a nearby fence row then called Mecosta County Central Dispatch. Central called CO Brian Lebel at his residence. CO Lebel advised them that he would respond but requested a car from the Sheriff's Department be sent if one was in the area. As CO Lebel was driving to the

site, he was notified that the subjects had returned to look for the deer. A sheriff's car got the subjects stopped. CO Lebel arrived and obtained a confession from the subjects that they had indeed shot the deer with a bow. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy VanGelderren was called to respond to the scene of a domestic dispute that was being handled by local sheriff's department deputies. The deputies had discovered a buck hanging in an outbuilding that had been shot with a rifle. Confessions were obtained and enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy VanGelderren observed a subject vigorously snagging in an Oceana County stream. A woman sat on the bank behind the man. The woman kept looking around the area. CO VanGelderren was able to come right up behind the two subjects and announce his presence. The snagger became quite disgusted at being caught and said, "Mom, you're a lousy lookout".

COs Angela Greenway and Carolyn Dice were following up on a case involving a 17 year old hunter who was transporting an uncased bow near a camping spot on state land. The COs returned to camp with the young hunter and found a large bag of carrots at the site. When the COs asked if anyone was using them for baiting deer, one subject claimed the carrots and explained they were making carrot stew back home.

COs Carolyn Dice and Angela Greenway heard a call from Lake County Dispatch in reference to a female with a firearm threatening to commit suicide. The COs were familiar with the residents and responded from nearby. By the time the officers arrived, the spouse of the suicidal subject had taken the firearm away from her. The COs spoke with the persons on scene and calmed the woman, who was transported to the hospital for evaluation.

An Osceola County bow hunter was watching a group of deer from his stand when a rifle shot rang out and a subject stepped from the woods carrying a rifle. The bow hunter yelled at the man who ran to a nearby residence. CO Brian Lebel and PCO Robert Crisp arrived and questioned the man in the house. After some time the subject admitted that he had shot at the deer but was sure he had missed. No blood could be found. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells responded to an Oceana County trespass complaint. A man and a woman carrying a bow and a tree stand had been observed by the property owner walking across his field and into his woods. When CO Wells arrived, he questioned the subjects and was told that the woman was hunting while the man had helped her set her stand. He said he was not hunting, as his hunting rights were revoked. The male subject was shown to have 14 DNR prior arrests including four for trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy Mueller checked a subject in possession of a beaver and two dozen untagged traps in his truck. The subject had no fur harvester license and was ticketed.

COs Sam Koscinski and Jair Kollasch followed up on a baiting complaint in Wexford County. The COs located a tree stand that was freshly baited with apples, carrots and corn, and observed fresh blood near the bait pile. Officers Koscinski and Kollasch contacted the owner of the stand, who had deer quarters lying on the kitchen counter at his residence. The subject admitted to not tagging the deer and was issued a ticket for failing to immediately tag deer. When the COs inspected the carcass and counted the discarded legs, they had enough legs for three deer. The subject stated that his grandson had taken the other two deer. The grandson came to his grandfather's residence and admitted that he had shot two deer and failed to tag them. The grandson was ticketed for the tagging violation. The COs also found that the grandson had two outstanding warrants from Grand Traverse County and was lodged on those warrants.

CO Jair Kollasch responded to a burning complaint in Wexford County where a subject burned a shed and other items to dispose of them. The subject was ticketed for unlawful disposal of solid waste.

CO Sean Kehoe and PCO Kevin Postma made contact with a 19 year old male and 15 year old female parked in an out of the way location in Grand Traverse County. The officer learned that the 19 year old is a registered sex offender. The officers called the female's parents and she was taken home.

CO Diane Drogowski and PCO Kevin Postma cited a subject for baiting deer in Grand Traverse County. When the officer made contact with the subject, he denied putting the bait out, stating that someone must have been messing with him. PCO Postma noticed a piece of sugar beet in the back of the subject's vehicle. When the officer's asked him about the beet in the back of his vehicle, he stated "Are you sure you found that in my truck?"

CO Sean Kehoe and PCO Kevin Postma followed up on a complaint of a subject taking overlimits of walleye on a Grand Traverse County lake. CO Kehoe learned that the subject was fishing on the nastiest days and during the week. The officers located where the subject moored his boat and waited for him to return to shore one evening. When the subject and a friend returned to shore, they had 21 walleye, 11 of which were under sized. PCO Postma also located a M60 snag hook in one of the tackle boxes. The subjects were cited for the overlimit of walleye.

CO Carolyn Dice responded to a complaint from a Lake County land owner in reference to a subject he watched shoot a ruffed grouse from an open door of a van on his property. CO Dice located the van and interviewed the driver and passenger. The hunters ultimately admitted to seeing the grouse while driving around with their hunting dog looking for a good grouse hunting spot and couldn't resist the temptation.

CO Steve Converse was patrolling a Manistee County two track when he noticed a vehicle parked with an uncased 12 gauge in the back seat and keys in the ignition. He waited at the location for the owner to show up. After a short time, the owner of the vehicle came out from the woods and claimed to have just finished small game hunting.

While speaking with the hunter, CO Converse discovered that the subject also had no hunter orange with him and slugs in his pocket. The subject eventually admitted to riding around with the uncased gun but could not explain the slugs. CO Converse cited the hunter for possessing an uncased firearm in a motor vehicle.

CO Steve Converse received a complaint about a deer that had just been shot with a rifle and was lying in a field at a rural location in Manistee County. CO Converse responded to the location, located the deer, and then watched from a concealed position. After a short time, two subjects arrived with a bow and arrow and shot the deer. CO Converse contacted the two while they were attempting to leave the scene and interviewed them about their activities that evening. A confession was obtained and the firearm that was used to shoot the deer was recovered. Charges are pending.

CO Brian Brosky and CO Jim Espinoza were following up on a baiting complaint in Mason County when they encountered the subject of the investigation operating an ORV in the oncoming lane in front of them. The subject had a suspended driver's license, an uncased bow with arrows on the ORV, and had just shot an 8-point buck.

DISTRICT 5

CO John Huspen and PCO Seth Rhodea received information that locals were dumping household trash in the dumpsters located at the state forest campgrounds. After digging through several bags of trash, PCO Rhodea found household trash from a local resident. PCO Rhodea located the subject and obtained a confession.

COs Matt Liestenfeltz and William Cherry received a complaint of a single shot at dark along with a license plate of a vehicle parked in the vicinity at the time it was heard. The COs went to the scene and found a blood trail leading to where the deer had been loaded. The owner of the vehicle was not at his residence but was located and told the COs the blood on his tailgate was from his dog that had been hit and killed. After further questioning, the subject admitted to shooting a button buck with a .20 gauge. The hunter had not purchased any hunting licenses in several years. The firearm and venison were both seized.

CO Bobbi Bashore located an illegal camp on state land. While there, she observed two juveniles hunting unsupervised with bait, and in addition, two adults were hunting over bait with blinds that had been left in place for several years.

CO Chuck McPherson located a drag mark and backtracked it to a deer gut pile. Further tracking led to a tree stand and bait. CO McPherson checked the stand the next morning and contacted a hunter who stated he had not taken a deer and still had his combination license tags. After further questioning, the subject admitted he had shot a deer and hung it in a tree near his parked vehicle without tagging it.

CO Bobbi Bashore responded to a request to assist MSP troopers who had stopped several subjects and located five loaded guns, an unregistered pistol and had a large

amount of bait in their vehicle. CO Bashore met the subjects at their camp. After talking with the subjects, they admitted to baiting deer and one subject admitted he had shot a deer with a .30-.30 rifle the night before and had it hanging in the shed. The subject stated he had dumped the deer parts in the nearby woods.

CO William Cherry was attempting to find a subject hunting who had recently been ticketed for purchasing a license while revoked. CO Cherry located the subject along with a second subject at an illegal blind with bait.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz stopped occupants of a vehicle who were shining. The occupants had open intoxicants along with a rifle and shotgun in the cab and an uncased bow in the bed of the pick-up truck. One of the subjects in the vehicle had a concealed pistol license, but failed to immediately notify the CO that he had a loaded pistol in the console.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz stopped a vehicle during a shining flight. The occupants had open intoxicants and a loaded .243 rifle lying on the front seat and a spotlight hooked to a car battery. The subjects had coolers to transport the venison so the carcass could be left behind.

CO John Huspen and PCO Seth Rhodea conducted a patrol on the Au Sable River in Oscoda and observed three subjects attempting to snag fish. The subjects possessed over a dozen snagging hooks. One subject had failed to purchase a fishing license.

CO Jason McCullough investigated two separate litter piles on state land where names were found in the litter. Follow-up investigation led to confessions and tickets issued in both cases.

CO Brian Olsen contacted an angler leaving the Au Sable River with a salmon in hand. CO Olsen observed snag marks on the fish's belly and asked the subject how he had caught the fish. The subject then confessed to snagging the fish. A ticket was issued for retaining a foul hooked fish.

CO Brian Olsen responded to a complaint of trees being cut in the Ambrose Lake State Forest Campground. CO Olsen found a freshly cut tree and followed the drag marks to a specific campsite where the tree was laying. The investigation revealed an unsupervised minor had cut the tree and was also out hunting unsupervised when CO Olsen was interviewing the minor's father. A ticket was issued to the father for the unsupervised minor hunting.

CO Brian Olsen caught a subject fishing in a closed trout stream. A check revealed the subject had two prior fishing arrests on his record. He now has a third.

CO Brian Olsen received a complaint from an off duty MSP trooper who heard two shots coming from the property neighboring his house. CO Olsen responded and contacted the landowner who confessed to shooting at two grouse out the window of his

truck and also confessed to trespassing on the neighbor's property while doing so. Tickets were issued.

COs Joel Lundberg and Steve Lockwood responded to a complaint of shots fired and interviewed the landowner from where the shots were believed to have been fired. The subject denied knowing anything about the shots but the COs found fresh blood in the bed of the subject's truck. Further investigation led to a confession from the subject to shooting an 8 point buck with a .30-.06. While in the barn recovering the 8 point, CO Lundberg observed another set of antlers nearby which led to an additional confession of a 5 point buck that was shot by another subject a few days before. Tickets were issued to both individuals.

At dusk, CO Joel Lundberg stopped a car occupied by two subjects. Both had archery releases on their hands and there were two uncased bows with arrows in the vehicle. They confessed to road hunting for deer and were ticketed by CO Lundberg.

CO Joel Lundberg received a complaint of shots fired after dark from a vehicle. The complainant obtained the license plate number of the vehicle. Assisted by CO Steve Lockwood and PCO Kyle Bader, the investigation led them to the address of the licensed vehicle. The COs were waiting when subjects pulled into the driveway with a .12 gauge shotgun loaded with slugs and a freshly killed deer in the bed of the truck. Further investigation revealed that the deer was not the one they shot at when the complaint was called in. They had missed the deer they shot at but saw one standing in the road afterward and intentionally ran it over with the truck. Arrests were made.

COs Rebecca Hopkins and Steve Lockwood located five individuals who were snagging fish in the Au Sable River. Tickets were issued for retaining foul hooked fish.

COs Tami Pullen and Joel Lundberg issued tickets to subjects who were retaining foul hooked fish, fishing with illegal gear, and littering in the Au Sable River.

CO Brian Engelhard received a complaint of pine boughs being stolen from private land. CO Engelhard located the suspect vehicle on public land and found the subjects actively cutting pine boughs. Officer Engelhard obtained a confession and seized a full pickup truck load of stolen pine boughs from the individuals. Tickets were issued to two subjects.

DISTRICT 6

CO Holly Pennoni investigated a subject who had his hunting privileges revoked and purchased a small game license, combination deer license and waterfowl licenses. CO Pennoni seized the licenses and enforcement action was taken.

CO Holly Pennoni worked a plane flight for shiners with District 9 COs and was directed toward a "suspicious" vehicle that turned out to be four subjects driving around the back roads nude for no apparent reason.

CO Holly Pennoni received numerous complaints of shining and shooting near state land at a dead end road. While working the area, she observed a vehicle shining a field in front of her. Upon stopping the vehicle, she found an uncased .22 caliber rifle and the occupants claimed they were raccoon hunting. Both subjects were ticketed for shining with a firearm.

CO Jason Smith investigated a recreational trespass complaint involving a bow hunter sneaking in on the Caro State Mental Hospital property and baiting. A ticket was written for the trespass violation.

CO Jason Smith received a complaint at the Fish Point State Game Area (SGA) and encountered two waterfowl hunters using lead shot. Tickets were written for the violations.

CO Joshua Wright received a complaint of a swan being shot at Fish Point SGA. Upon arriving on scene, the hunter was waiting with his head hanging low and confessed to the violation. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joshua Wright responded to a baiting complaint with a possible illegally shot deer. CO Wright asked the hunter's grandmother where the deer was when she promptly called her grandson to show CO Wright the untagged, gunshot deer hanging in the barn. The deer and firearm were seized and enforcement action was taken.

On the opening day of pheasant season, CO Robert Hobkirk took a complaint from Sanilac County where a subject witnessed a vehicle drive past his residence, put a firearm out of the driver's window, and shoot two pheasants on the corner of his lawn. The vehicle then drove down the road, turned around and came back, at which time the passenger exited and picked up one of the pheasants. The property owner yelled at them and told the person to drop the bird. The bird was dropped and the witness was able to get a vehicle description and a plate number. When CO Hobkirk interviewed the registered owner of the vehicle at his residence, he admitted to trespassing and shooting the birds, but denied shooting from the vehicle or having another person with him. CO Hobkirk is seeking charges from the prosecutor's office.

While working a shining patrol in Huron County shortly after 11:00 p.m., CO Robert Hobkirk observed a vehicle shining treetops along the road. The vehicle passed his location and was stopped. The driver was asked what they were doing wrong; he replied, "Poaching, sir." The four subjects had been driving around locating raccoons with spotlights and shooting them from the road. In the trunk was a loaded .22 cal. rifle, three raccoons and an opossum. Also in the trunk CO Hobkirk found a handgun holster. The loaded .22 caliber revolver was located on the back seat between two subjects. None of the occupants had a fur harvester license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Scott Brown was patrolling the Minden SGA when he came across a pickup truck with a half full bag of carrots in the bed of the truck. CO Brown followed the hunter's

trail through the swamp that led to the bow hunter in his tree stand, using screw-in tree steps, no name on his stand, and hunting over a large pile of beets and carrots. Enforcement action was taken.

While working a group patrol under a plane, COs Mat Theunick and Dan Lee conducted a stop on a vehicle shining in the Gratiot Saginaw SGA. The COs contacted the driver, who did not have a driver's license. He was also transporting two bows in the truck while shining, but did not have a license to hunt deer. The passengers were in possession of open intoxicants in the vehicle and one was a convicted felon. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Steve Lockwood and Nick Atkin contacted a subject shining a field from a pickup, and observed a bow case in the extended cab portion of the truck. During the investigation that followed, the COs located an uncased .17 caliber rifle under the rear bench seat. Upon further investigation, the loaded magazine of the rifle was located shoved in the rear seat of the pickup, along with numerous loaded and empty casings on the floor of the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jay Person had made numerous attempts to catch a hunter hunting over a baited stand that was nearly a mile off the road. Upon contact, the CO found it was a father with his ten year old son. The son had just turned ten and both he and his father attended the law section that CO Person instructed at the hunter safety class. The father explained that he was just trying to keep his son interested by keeping deer in front of him. The father took full responsibility and said he had no excuse, and told his son he made a mistake. Enforcement action was taken.

While investigating a complaint of a deer carcass that was dumped, CO Larn Strawn discovered a kill tag still attached to the deer leg. After follow up and interviews, the CO contacted the persons responsible for the dumping. The person admitted to dumping the deer and stated they were simply too busy to properly dispose of it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Larn Strawn was dispatched to a report of a person injured on an ORV. Upon arriving on the scene, the CO observed the injured person and several members of the group all seemed intoxicated and all were operating ORVs. None were wearing helmets or eye protection and one was transporting a loaded gun. The CO interviewed the group members and the injured person at the hospital. After investigating the incident and obtaining a search warrant for a blood draw to determine the level of intoxication, CO Strawn will seek warrants through the prosecutor's office.

While working a complaint of subjects hunting geese from a vehicle, CO Jeremy Payne and PCO Kyle Bader witnessed a vehicle matching the description of the suspect vehicle drive by. The COs stopped the vehicle and after searching it located an uncased shotgun and a large bag of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

While working a late shining patrol, CO Phil Hudson investigated some unusually tall lights in the woods. The CO discovered two coon hunters on horseback in the game area. They stated they did not know horses were not allowed. The CO pointed his flashlight at the sign they were standing next to and it read no horses in the game area. The CO asked them to remove their horses and issued tickets for having loaded firearms after legal shooting hours.

While working a late night shining patrol, CO Phil Hudson received a phone call at 3:00 a.m. from a deputy on a traffic stop. The deputy observed several raccoons in the bed of the truck and asked the CO to assist. The subject stated he was out checking his deer hunting blind and was attacked by the raccoons. When asked why he was out in the woods with a rifle, again he stated he was just checking his deer blind. A license check revealed that the subject had not purchased any licenses since 2007. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Ken Cerny checked a deer hunter who was afield and in possession of another person's antlerless kill tag. The tag was issued to a Michigan resident, and the hunter afield was a nonresident. CO Cerny contacted the tag owner and, after further interviews, ticketed the nonresident hunter for borrowing the license/kill tag of another.

CO Zach Doss was contacted by a local police agency to respond to a stop they had made on a vehicle. An untagged deer was inside the stopped vehicle and the driver claimed it was a road kill. The driver did not have a road kill permit, and when CO Doss inspected the deer, he located a 12 gauge slug hole. CO Doss interviewed the driver and obtained a confession that an acquaintance of his had shot the deer. CO Doss continues his investigation with at least two subjects facing illegal deer charges.

COs Zach Doss and Jeff Rabbers executed a search warrant on an individual thought to be in possession of an illegal deer head. The search yielded the recovery of an illegally taken 10 point buck head along with firearms illegally possessed by a felon. COs Doss and Rabbers obtained confessions from the subjects, with charges of illegal deer and reckless discharge of a firearm forthcoming.

CO Gerard Goulette checked a subject on state land who seemed suspicious, and made a note of the subject's identity. COs Goulette and Ivan Perez returned to the area later and found an illegal tree stand. When they started to leave, they observed deer hair on a log. They then found a drag mark leaving the area. The COs located the subject and the deer and found that it was tagged with a private land antlerless tag. Tickets were issued.

CO Chris Simpson checked a subject returning from hunting on public land. While talking to the subject, he observed bait bags in the back of his truck. After the subject left the area, CO Simpson located the subject's stand and bait. He then tracked the

subject down and stopped him again and found he had disposed of the bait bags somewhere on the public land.

CO Chris Simpson stopped a subject with a deer in the back of his truck on public land. The subject had a buck with both antlers less than four points, and no kill tag. The subject produced a restricted combination deer license, and stated that he was confused about the law, as this was the first combination license that he had purchased. A check of the license system revealed that the subject had purchased combination licenses in the past.

CO Greg Patten was on surveillance of a closed trout stream. As he watched, a subject exited a vehicle with something in his hand. The subject walked to the stream and threw the object in. When CO Patten contacted the subject, he denied throwing anything in the stream even after it was pointed out that the object he threw was floating downstream. The subject was issued a ticket for littering and retrieved the fast food bag from the stream. The bag contained a receipt printed shortly before the subject arrived.

DISTRICT 8

COs Jeff Goss and Jeff Rabbers are working together on a case involving the illegal killing of two deer at two separate residences. The investigation showed that the deer were killed at night with a spotlight. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols observed five subjects walking out of a field on the opening day of pheasant season. When the subjects saw CO Nickols, two of them turned around and walked back into the field. Upon contact with the remaining subjects, CO Nickols was told that the two subjects had returned to retrieve a dog. CO Nickols contacted the remaining two subjects and noted that neither subject had a hunting license or a dog. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Damon Owens and Sgt. Troy Bahlau contacted a subject who was hunting without a license and had an uncased bow in his motor vehicle. Upon further investigation, a legally tagged 7 point buck was found in the subject's garage, along with an illegally taken turkey. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy contacted a subject with an uncased bow in his vehicle, no kill tags, a suspended driver's license and two outstanding warrants. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy assisted a local law enforcement agency on a trespass complaint and found the subject in possession of an untagged deer. Further investigation revealed that the subject had two prior convictions of recreational trespass. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy waited for a subject to return to his unattended line and upon contact discovered that the subject did not possess a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer received a complaint of a subject hunting over 10 gallons of bait. CO Brewer contacted the subject and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss was assisted by the local deputies and responded to an illegal hunting complaint. The law officers contacted two subjects exiting the woods from Consumers Energy property. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the subjects were trespassing while hunting deer over bait with firearms. The weapons located were a 9mm handgun, a 12 gauge shotgun, and a bow with arrows. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss received a complaint of a subject trespassing and shooting deer with a firearm during the closed season. CO Goss contacted the subject and his investigation revealed an illegally shot 11 point buck, an illegally shot 6 point buck, and illegally taken raccoon pelts. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Walker contacted a subject who purchased a hunting license while revoked. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols received a complaint of a vehicle dumping tires and burning them on state land. CO Nickols' investigative ability and diligence paid off when he contacted the subjects two weeks later and received a full confession on the illegal dumping. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Prince contacted a subject who was hunting over illegal bait which was distributed with a spin cast timer feeder holding approximately 200 pounds of corn. The subject stated that he "would take his chances because he saw so much bait being sold at the gas stations". Enforcement action was taken.

COs Dan Prince, Jeff Walker, and Jason J. Smith contacted a subject hunting illegally over bait at night with an infrared light while using a crossbow. Further investigation revealed that the subject had a camera set up so he could watch the deer on a TV inside his house. The COs also located an illegal deer in the subject's garage that had been shot the previous night. The subject had not purchased a hunting license since the year 2000. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Bigger assisted a local police department with a trespassing complaint. The subject was convicted of recreational trespass on two previous occasions. Further investigation revealed an illegally taken deer in the subject's possession. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

CO Dan Walzak responded to a baiting complaint and located a tree stand overlooking a pile of corn on the ground. Suspecting that there may be a second stand in the area, CO Walzak continued looking, but didn't locate a second stand. Returning to the first stand, CO Walzak found it occupied by a hunter. During the contact, it was determined that the individual also had a bench warrant for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken and the subject was lodged on the warrant.

COs Ben Shively and Kris Kiel conducted a commercial processor inspection. The inspection resulted in a possible gun shot doe, which after investigation, turned into a tagging violation. The COs also located a buck that had a kill tag on it that was purchased and validated on the 19th. The processor slip showed that the deer was shot on the 18th and taken to the processor on the 19th. The investigation continues.

CO Ron Pinson observed a group of hunters picking up their decoys after legal hunting hours had ended. A group of wood ducks flew in and one of the subjects shot at them. CO Pinson contacted the subjects and took enforcement action. The subjects who did not shoot informed the CO they liked reading "Cuffs and Collars" and hoped they could read this story.

While working a shining patrol, CO John Borkovich observed a light from a vehicle shining a field. He was able to catch up to the vehicle and stop it. The occupants were using a small flashlight for shining deer and had an uncased bow with a knocked arrow in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Borkovich waited near a barn for two subjects to come back from archery hunting. The subjects were surprised to see the CO. Several violations were observed including riding double on an ORV, no helmets, and uncased bows on the ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Jon Sklba were at the Holloway Reservoir when they observed a truck with a small boat in the bed pull out of the parking lot rather quickly. The vehicle was stopped a short distance down the road and the subjects were found to have two fish in the back of the truck. One was a nice walleye and the other was a 21 inch pike. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Jon Sklba received a complaint of a subject who had shot multiple deer. The COs investigated the hunting location and tracked down an individual from out of town. Their investigation found the subject shot five deer over the weekend and used antlerless licenses from other Deer Management Units (DMUs). Two of the deer were taken illegally. The subject gave a written confession and his \$2800 firearm was seized. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach was patrolling through Dryden when he observed a vehicle that appeared to be road hunting. CO Kovach stopped the vehicle and contacted the operator, who had an uncased bow in the seat next to him. The subject admitted to attempting to take a deer on his lunch break. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling for illegal hunting activity, CO Ken Kovach observed two vehicles that appeared to be working together road hunting. CO Kovach was able to stop one of the vehicles while the other one got away. Unfortunately for the subjects in the vehicle he stopped, a subject suspected of taking a seven point buck without a license. CO Shively found there was an uncased bow. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively completed an investigation on two locations where the subject was hunting after legal hunting hours. CO Shively observed the subject at one of the locations hunting from inside a vacant house bordering a city park. With the assistance of CO Brandon Kieft, the subject was contacted shortly after the end of legal hunting hours. The subject was found to be in possession of a crossbow and a compound bow, both with knocked arrows, after legal hunting hours, an artificial light with a red lens was mounted just inside the door which was aimed at an illegal bait pile, and the subject was in possession of marijuana. The subject was ticketed for hunting with a crossbow during the closed season, using an artificial light in an attempt to take game, and hunting deer over bait when prohibited. The crossbow, compound bow, artificial light, and marijuana were seized. CO Shively also received a written confession from the subject for illegally taking the seven point buck. A warrant is being sought for the illegal deer. The investigation also produced enough evidence to ticket the subject's brother for feeding/baiting deer at a separate location. Another subject was ticketed for loaning the kill tag placed on the seven point buck.

CO Todd Szyska contacted an angler who was 28 panfish over his limit. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling St. Clair County, CO Ben Lasher observed a vehicle parked on the side of the road near Detroit Edison property which is closed to hunting. CO Lasher tracked a subject down who had crawled under the fence with "No Trespassing" signs on it and into the woods. The CO found the subject in a tree stand. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Ennett responded to a complaint of two people hunting in a county park. When CO Ennett arrived they were still hunting, despite a local resident telling them of the hunting closure. The park was properly posted advising people of the no hunting. One of the hunters was disgruntled enough at the lack of open hunting areas that he asked CO Ennett if he would like to purchase his hunting equipment.

While working a local game area, CO Mark Ennett located a pair of unsuccessful waterfowl hunters. As he checked their licenses, CO Ennett found one of the subjects was hunting without a Michigan waterfowl license. The hunter stated that he had been hunting for years without one because no one had ever checked him or sold him one in the past. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Ennett contacted a subject who was ticketed for having an electric feeder with many gallons of corn being dispensed. The subject claimed he was feeding turkeys, not deer.

CO Mark Ennett responded to a baiting complaint and located two different tree stands with two bait piles. The subject who was baiting was experimenting with corn at one stand and apples at the other to see what the deer preferred. The subject admitted to placing "only five gallons" of bait at each stand. CO Ennett informed him that the old regulation only allowed two gallons. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Walzak was called out to assist a local police department with a situation on a traffic stop. CO Walzak arrived to find that the two subjects from the vehicle were in separate patrol cars and there was a pile of deer hides and raccoon carcasses sitting behind the subjects' pickup truck. During brief interviews, both subjects gave sketchy stories about the raccoons. Both subjects stated that the owner of the pickup bought the deer hides to re-sell to a fur dealer. Examination of the hides revealed that three of them had firearm entrance wounds and the hides were fresh. Neither subject had a fur harvester license for the raccoons or a fur dealer license to trade in furs/hides. Enforcement action was taken.

A citizen approached CO Lacelle Rabon while he was refueling his patrol vehicle and reported that a youth was inside the gas station putting chewing tobacco in his right rear pocket without paying for it. CO Rabon approached the youth, and before he could question the youth, he admitted to taking the tobacco. After talking to the assistant manager, the youth removed a second container of snuff from his right rear pocket. The district manager advised that the company would not prosecute for the theft.

CO Ben Shively assisted local sheriff's department deputies at 1:00 a.m. with a vehicle they were holding with an untagged freshly killed deer. CO Shively arrived and contacted two subjects who had a button buck in the rear of their vehicle. The subjects claimed to have heard two shots and drove to the area and found the deer. The passenger was a convicted felon who admitted he was target shooting earlier in the day with a .22 - 250. The driver was suspended five times and is out on bond on felony drug possession. Enforcement action was taken.

While responding to assist MSP on an accident, CO Ben Shively observed a motorcycle riding a wheel stand across the I-75 overpass. Just prior to passing him, the cycle rider put the front wheel down and accelerated, shifting gears twice. CO Shively continued to the accident scene and assisted MSP. While at the scene, one of the EMS techs informed him of a motorcycle accident in the immediate area of the stunt rider. CO Shively contacted the trooper from the motorcycle accident and asked what happened. The trooper said the rider claimed the throttle stuck and he had to lay the bike down to avoid hitting another vehicle. When asked for a description of the rider, the trooper described the "stunt rider". CO Shively advised the trooper of his observations and the trooper wrote a ticket for reckless driving and issued it at the hospital.

CO Kris Kiel contacted two subjects he had been looking for who were hunting over bait. He found the first subject in his stand and asked to check his license. The subject said that he left it in the vehicle. On the way back to the vehicle, CO Kiel asked the subject how many deer he had shot this year. The subject said that they had shot a

couple does during the early antlerless season. When they arrived at the vehicle, he produced an archery license. The second subject came out of the woods and when asked for his license he showed CO Kiel a combination license and admitted to killing one of the does during the antlerless season. A check of the license system showed the first subject had purchased a combination license, an antlerless license, and an archery license. The second subject only had bought the combination license. After questioning the subjects about all of the inconsistencies, the first subject admitted to tagging an antlerless deer with one combination tag and an eight point buck with the other. The other subject admitted to hunting the antlerless season without a license, and when he shot a doe, the first subject gave him his antlerless license to tag it with. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel received a complaint of three subjects rallying ducks and shooting while underway. He arrived at the scene and watched three subjects in a small aluminum boat "runnin and gunnin" ducks on Lake St. Clair. CO Kiel watched and followed them to shore only to find out they were all juveniles. He met with the parents and wrote them tickets for allowing juveniles to hunt unsupervised.

COs Todd Szyska and Kris Kiel were called to Stoney Creek Metro Park. A large eight point buck had wandered over to the boat launch and was in poor health. The buck was suffering from an arrow shot to the liver area. The COs arrived and CO Kiel was able to dispatch the animal. It ran into the lake and died and the COs had to pull it out. The large buck had a yellow pen deer tag in its right ear. Obviously, an escapee or released animal from a facility. The deer was turned over to Wildlife Division for testing.